IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Toshiharu KOBAYASHI et al.

Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2004 1501A

Filed September 24, 2004

NI-BASE DIRECTIONALLY SOLIDIFIED AND SINGLE-CRYSTAL SUPERALLOY [Corresponding to JP03/03885 Filed March 27, 2003]

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the interest of compact prosecution, please amend the present application as follows: